

**REMARKS / ARGUMENTS**

This letter is responsive to the Office Action dated April 25, 2001. This response is accompanied by a Request for a two-month Extension of Time. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this response is timely filed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner reviewed the Information Disclosure Statement and advised that pursuant to 37CFR 1.98(a)(2), a legible copy of each United States and foreign patent must be present in the Patent Office's file for this application. The applicant respectfully submits that pursuant to 1.98(d), a copy of any patent, publication or other information listed in an Information Disclosure Statement is not required to be provided if it was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a parent application. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that no additional copies of documents need be required in this particular case. The Examiner is thanked for her review of the patents which were contained in the Information Disclosure Statement.

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that under 37CFR 1.60, reference to the prior application is required. The applicant has amended the first lines of the specification by canceling lines 1 and 2 and inserting therefor the following:

The present application is a division of Application No.  
09/239,860, filed January 29, 1999 which is still pending.

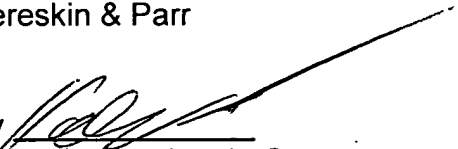
Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that the priority claims is appropriately set out in the specification.

The Examiner rejected the claims under 35USC 112 and 35USC 102. The applicant has cancelled the said claims without prejudice. The applicant has inserted therefor new claims. In particular, the applicant respectfully points out the present specification contains support for the embodiments claimed in this divisional application. In particular, the Examiner is referred to the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 27.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bereskin & Parr

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the Specification:**

Please cancel all written material between "Title" and "Field of the invention" and insert the following:

The present application is a division of Application No. 09/239,860, filed January 29, 1999 which is still pending.

**In the claims:**

Please cancel claims 22 – 30 without prejudice which are on file and insert therefor new claims 31 – 44 which are set out below:

31. An upright vacuum cleaner comprising:
  - (a) a cleaning head for cleaning a surface;
  - (b) an upper body portion mounted on the cleaning head, the upper portion having a cyclonic cleaning unit comprising at least first and second cyclonic cleaning stages, the second cyclonic cleaning stage positioned in series with the first cyclonic cleaning stage and the cyclonic unit is removable from the vacuum cleaner.
32. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage is positioned downstream from the first cyclonic cleaning stage.
33. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage comprises a plurality of cyclones in parallel.
34. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 33 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage comprises a single cyclone.
35. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber, the second cyclonic cleaning stage has a second dirt collection chamber and the first and second dirt collection chambers are parallel to each other.
36. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber having a bottom, the second cyclonic cleaning stage has a second dirt collection chamber having a bottom and the bottom of the first and second dirt collection chambers lie in a common plane.
37. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 34 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber, the second cyclonic cleaning stage

has a second dirt collection chamber and the first and second dirt collection chambers are parallel to each other.

38. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 34 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber having a bottom, the second cyclonic cleaning stage has a second dirt collection chamber having a bottom and the bottom of the first and second dirt collection chambers lie in a common plane.

39. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage is positioned above the first cyclonic cleaning stage.

40. A vacuum cleaner comprising:

- (a) a cleaning head for cleaning a surface;
- (b) an upper body portion mounted on the cleaning head, the upper portion having a cyclonic cleaning unit comprising at least first and second cyclonic cleaning stages, the second cyclonic cleaning stage positioned in series with the first cyclonic cleaning stage and the cyclonic unit is removable from the vacuum cleaner; and,
- (c) the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber having a bottom, the second cyclonic cleaning stage comprises a plurality of cyclones and has a single second dirt collection chamber having a bottom and the bottom of the first and second dirt collection chambers lie in a common plane.

41. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 40 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage is positioned downstream from the first cyclonic cleaning stage.

42. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 40 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage is positioned above the first cyclonic cleaning stage whereby dirt separated by the cyclonic cleaning stages falls due gravity into each of the dirt collection chambers.

43. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 42 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage comprises a single cyclone.

44. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 40 wherein the first and second dirt collection chambers are parallel to each other.